TRAVANCORE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Wednesday, the 2nd August, 1922.

(OFFICIAL REPORT.)

The Council met at the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall, Trivandrum, at Eleven Thirty of the Clock, the President presiding.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President under Standing Order No. 12.*

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table 15 minutes before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner:

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in serial order, specify the serial number of his questions and make a sufficient pause to allow him a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place, if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

NIRUTHAL LANDS INCLUDED IN FOREST RESERVES.

35. MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI: (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to place on the table a statement showing the total area of *wet lands* in the State which were once under cultivation and which have been subsequently treated as *Niruthal* and included in Forest reserves?

(*b*) Will the Government be kind enough to make a separate survey of those lands in small blocks of one or two acres each so as to consider the feasibility of their being brought under registry?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: (*a*) Government are not in possession of the information.

(*b*) The question of disafforesting areas suitable for paddy cultivation is engaging the attention of Government.

REVISED PUDUVAL RULES.

36. MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI: (*a*) Has there been any material increase in the *puduval* revenue in 1097 during which year the revised rules were being worked, as compared with 1096?

(*b*) How much land has been disposed of by public auction according to the new rules and at what average rates have the bids been accepted?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: (*a*) and (*b*) The information required by the member has been called for and will be laid on the table when received.

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[Mr. T. M. Chidambaratanu Pillai.]

MR. C. P. KOCHUKUNJU PILLAI: With reference to the answer to the first part of the question, will the Government be pleased to state whether there has been any material increase in the *puduval* revenue as compared with 1095 also? And as to the second part, will the Government be pleased to state how much land was advertised for sale in 1097 according to the new Puduval Rules?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: That information has also been called for.

CONCESSIONS TO THE PROPOSED SUGAR FACTORY.

37. MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) what concessions have been demanded by the organisers of the proposed sugar factory, which of them have been granted by Government, what part Government have taken hitherto in the enterprise and what progress has been made; and

(*b*) whether the promoters have asked for the imposition of an export duty on jaggery?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (*a*) The answer is contained in G. O. R. Dis. No. 499 of 22/Development, dated the 6th March, 1922, published in the Gazette dated the 14th *idem*. The organisers of the Company have not asked for any further concessions. No progress can be made till the expiry of the time allowed to Travancoreans for taking shares.

(*b*) Jaggery is already subject to export duty.

RECEIPT OF COMMISSION FROM FIRMS BY HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS.

38. MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI: Has any instance of any head of a department demanding or taking commission on articles purchased for Government purposes come to the notice of Government? If so, will the Government be pleased to state the name and designation of such officer?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: No instance of the kind has come to the notice of Government.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state from what section of the Huzur Office the answer was prepared?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: The answer was prepared after ascertaining the information from all the sections in the Secretariat.

MR. T. KUMARA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state whether there has been any correspondence from Messrs. Ferris & Co., on the subject?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: I am not aware.

RAISING OF THE CREST LEVEL OF THE SURPLUS WEIR OF THE PACHIPARA DAM.

39. MR. T. M. CHIDAMBARATANU PILLAI: (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether any correspondence

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